

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the title at page 1, line 1, with

-- METHOD FOR PRODUCING 4,6-DICHLOROPYRIMIDINE --

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the heading at page 8, line 1, with --WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:--

Please cancel Claims 1-9 and add Claims 10-18.

--10. A process for preparing 4,6-dichloropyrimidine comprising reacting 4-chloro-6-hydroxypyrimidine with an acid chloride.

11. The process according to Claim 10 wherein the acid chloride is  $\text{PCl}_3$ ,  $\text{POCl}_3$ ,  $\text{PCl}_5$ ,  $\text{R-PCl}_2$ ,  $\text{R-PCl}_4$ ,  $\text{R-POCl}_2$ , or  $\text{R}_3\text{PCl}_2$ , where R represents  $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{10}$ -aryl, substituted  $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{10}$ -aryl,  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ -alkyl, or substituted  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ -alkyl; an acid chloride of the formula  $\text{R}'\text{-CO-Cl}$ , where  $\text{R}'$  represents chlorine,  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ -alkoxy,  $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{10}$ -aryloxy,  $\text{-O-CCl}_3$ ,  $\text{-CO-Cl}$ , or  $\text{C}_5\text{-C}_{11}$ -heteroaryloxy having 1 to 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of N, O, and S, where the alkoxy, aryloxy, and heteroaryloxy radicals are optionally substituted; and  $\text{SOCl}_2$ .

12. The process according to Claim 10 wherein the acid chloride is generated in situ.

13. The process according to Claim 10 wherein 4-chloro-6-hydroxypyrimidine is used in isolated form or in the form of a reaction mixture containing the 4-chloro-6-hydroxypyrimidine.

14. The process according to Claim 10 wherein at least 1 mol of acid chloride is used per mole of 4-chloro-6-hydroxypyrimidine.

15. The process according to Claim 10 carried out in the presence of an aliphatic solvent, an aromatic solvent, a nitrile, an N-containing solvent, an ether, or a polyether.

16. The process according to Claim 10 carried out at a temperature in the range 0 to 200°C.

17. The process according to Claim 10 carried out under a pressure in the range 0.1 to 50 bar.